

## **APPENDIX C**

**Letters from  
Jefferson County Commission and  
Jefferson County Planning Board**



## Jefferson County Commission

Courthouse, P.O. Box H  
Boulder, Montana 59632-0249  
Telephone 406-225-4025  
Fax 406-225-4148

Tom Lythgoe, Chair Chuck Notbohm, Commissioner Ken Weber, Commissioner

# RECEIVED

July 6, 2005

JUL - 7 2005

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
BUTTE, MONTANA 59701

Jeff Ebert, District Administrator  
Montana Department of Transportation  
PO Box 3068  
Butte, MT 59701

Dear Jeff,

The Jefferson County Commission would like to comment on the upcoming Highway 69 project. The scoping meeting held in Boulder on June 1<sup>st</sup> was very informative, and we would like to thank the Transportation Department for the time and answers given to our constituents. That public meeting was very informative not only from the Transportation Department stand point, but also from the area resident's view point. This Commission has some concerns over the fact that the Transportation Department might propose asking the county to take over the maintenance of Highway 69 between the Red Bridge and the Elkhorn turn off. This being a paved road with definite safety and quality concerns makes the Commission leary of taking over the maintenance of this section of road. We see a need to address the needs of this highway, and applaud the Transportation Department's efforts to address these concerns, especially from a safety perspective.

Please let the record show that due to our resident's concerns, the safety concerns, and the budget concerns, the Jefferson County Commission would ask the Montana Department of Transportation to rebuild Highway 69 in the present location, and not move it to the proposed alternative location.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our comments on this project.

Sincerely,

*Tomas E. Lythgoe*  
Tomas E. Lythgoe, Chair  
Jefferson County Board of Commissioners

*Chuck Notbohm*  
Chuck Notbohm

*Ken Weber*  
Ken Weber

COM/ba

BUTTE DISTRICT	
1	DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR
2	DEPT. CONST. SUPER
3	ASST. DIST. CONST. SUPER
4	FIELD PROJ. MGRS
5	DATA OFFICER
6	ENGR. DESK/SUPER
7	ENGR.
8	DESIGN
9	LAB
10	WATER
11	OUTSIDE
12	DIST. CONST. ENGR.
13	PERSONNEL ENGR.
14	DIST. CONST. SUPER
15	ENGR. DESK/SUPER
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JEAN RILEY  
DAVE LARSEN  
TOM HANSEN

**RECEIVED**JUL 15 2005  
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
BUTTE, MONTANA 59701**JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING BOARD  
COURTHOUSE, P.O. BOX H  
BOULDER, MONTANA 59632**

July 14, 2005

Jeff Ebert, District Engineer  
Montana Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 3068  
Butte, MT 59702-3068

Dear Mr. Ebert:

The Jefferson County Planning Board has reviewed your tentative proposal concerning upgrading Highway 69 south of Boulder to approximately mile post 22.

We realize that plans are in the beginning stage and that a full range of alternatives has not been developed. However, one of the tentative alternatives proposes to construct a portion of the highway east of the Boulder River to approximately the Elkhorn turn off.

The Jefferson County Planning Board is opposed to the proposal as we believe it would violate a number of our goals and objectives set forth in Jefferson County's Growth Policy, adopted June 18, 2003.

Specifically, the Right to Farm and Ranch Policy, Resolution 31-2002, is intended in part to:

- Conserve, enhance, and encourage ranch, farming and all manner of agriculture activities and operations within and throughout Jefferson County where appropriate.
- Minimize potential conflicts between agriculture and non-agricultural uses of the land in Jefferson County (Growth Policy, Pg. 37).

We believe adding a new section of highway as proposed, maintain the old highway as a county road and obliterating the present dirt county road east of the river would be very detrimental to ranching activities in the Boulder Valley and would ultimately result in loss of agricultural land and congest subdivisions in the area harmful to agriculture, wildlife, and the rural character of the area.

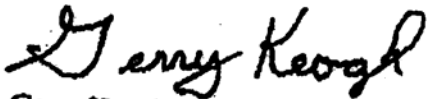
Such construction in this narrow strip of valley would also violate other goals of the Growth Policy to protect and maintain Jefferson County rural character and the community's historic relationship with natural resource development, and to preserve and enhance the rural, friendly, and independent lifestyle currently enjoyed by Jefferson County residents.

BUTTE DISTRICT	
1	DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR
2	DIST. CONST. SUPERV.
3	ASST. DIST. CONST. SUPERV.
4	FIELD PROJ. MGRS.
5	ENGR. OFFICER
6	ENGR. SERV. SUPERV.
7	DESIGN
8	LAB
9	TRAFFIC
10	UTILITIES
11	DIST. PERS. ENGR.
12	PERS. SERV. SUPERV.
13	DIST. PERS. OFFICER
14	CH. PLD. MANAGER
15	ENGR. SERV. SUPERV.
16	PROP. SERV. SUPERV.
17	AD. SERV. SUPERV. AT HQ
18	MOTOR CARRIER SVCS.
19	LAND SURVEYOR
20	DISTRICT FILE

✓ Jim DAVIES  
✓ Tom HANSEN  
✓ David C. LARSON

We are looking forward to working with you in the future on the project and reviewing all alternatives once you deliver them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerry Keogh".

Gerry Keogh, Chairman  
Jefferson County Planning Board

CC: Jim Lynch, Director MDT  
Jefferson County Commission